and State levels to prevent 'marriages' of minor Muslim girls with visiting foreigners from Saudi Arabia and other countries ; at the hand of girls parents who driven by object poverty offer their young daughters in marriage for consideration ;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) how many cases of proposed marriages of such a nature have come to Govern ment's notice and how many such marriages have been prevented during the past two years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) and (b) No instructions have been issued by the Central Government to Wakf Boards regarding marriages of minor Muslim girls to the visiting foreigners.

(c) The information will be collected and laid on the Table of the House.

Eradication of Scavening

3591. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the eradication of scavenging is to be completed by the end of Eight Plan in March, 1997 according to the Central Legislation enacted by Government; and

(b) "if so, what action has been taken by the Central and State Governments towards this end ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU); (a) and (b) The National Scheme of Liberation and rehabilitation of scavengers commenced from the last week of March, 1992 with the objective to liberate and rehabilitate the scavengers and their dependents in alternative, and dignified occupations. It is aimed to eradicate this obnoxious practice of scavenging within a period of five years i.e. Government has enacted two legislations the one for abolishing the practive of scavengtng witin a period of five yearplla. Government to set up a National Commission for Safai Karamcharies for effective monitoring of the implementation of the programme of liberation and rehabilitation of scavengers. Central grant is given to the State Governments and U. T. Administrations as per their requirements for the scheme. Accordingly, central assistance of Rs. 50.50 crores and Rs. 60.73 crores were released during 1991-92 and 1992-93 respectively. Rs. 73.20 crores have been provided for the programme during 1993-94. The number of scavengers identified so for is 6.74 lakhs. Number of scavengers trained and rehabilitated during 1992-93 was 15,592 and 19,189 respectively. The target for 1993-94 is to train and rehabilitate 27,521 and 95,419 scavangers respectively.

Criteria to Define OBCs

3592. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHA-KER DAVE :

SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOW-DHURY:

SHRI MOHD. KHALEELUR RAHMAN:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that "Creamy layer" of OBC is differently defined by State Governments and these definitions-widely differ from the central criteria;

(b) if so, the details of the central criteria and, criteria adopted by various States;

(c) whether it is also a fact that certain castes in OBC have attained high status and affluence and have cornered most of the benefits and deserve to be 'upgraded' as upper castes; if no, why; an

(d) whether departure from the central criteria in defining "Creamy layer" of OBC is lawful ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU) : (a) and (b) The details of the social economic criteria for exclusion of the "creamy layer" from the OBCs' for the purpose of reservation in civil services and posts under the Govt, of India are given in the Annexure. *[See* Appendix 170. Annexure No 72.]

Information on criteria adopted by various States is being' collected, and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The very purpose of defining the "creamy layer" is to exclude socially advanced persons/ sections from the OBCs who merit exclusion from the benefit of reservation.

(d) The Supreme Court in its majority judgment in Mandal Case delivered on 16th November, 1992 required the Central Government as well as each of the State Governments to evolve its own criteria for excluding the "creamy layer" from the OBCs.

स्वैच्छिक संगठनों को सहायता

3593. श्री पर्वतनेनि उपेन्द्र : क्या कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार वृद्धों तथा समाज के कमजोर वर्गों से संबंधित कार्यक्रमों के कार्यान्वयन के लिये स्वैच्छिक संगठनों को कोई सहायता दे रही है, यदि हां, तो हर वर्ष अनुदान की कितनी राशि स्वीकृत की जाती है;

(ख) उसका गत दो वर्षों का राज्य-वार ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) गत दो वर्षों के दौरान इन स्वैच्छिक संगठनों द्वारा की गई प्रगति का ब्यौरा क्या है;

(घ) क्या सरकार ने इन संगठनों द्वारा किये गए कार्य की समीक्षा की है; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और कितने स्वैच्छिक संगठनों ने निधियों का दुरुपयोग किया है और सरकार ने उनके विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के० वी० तंगकाबालू) : (क) और (ख) जी, हां राज्यवार विवरण संलग्न है (**मोटे टाइप**) ।

(ग) स्वयंसेवी संगठनों ने देश में वृद्धावस्था गृहों तथा दिवा देखभाल केन्द्रों की संख्या में वृद्धि करने में योगदान किया है और समाज के कमजोर वर्गों की समाजार्थिक स्थिति में सुधार लाने में सहायता की है ।

(घ) और (ङ) स्वयंसेवी संगठनों के कार्यों की आवधिक समीक्षा राज्य सरकारों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्र प्रशासनों से रिपोर्टों की प्राप्ति, तुलन-पत्रों और वार्षिक लेखा-परीक्षित खातों तथा केन्द्रीय/राज्य सरकार के अधिकारियों के दल द्वारा किये जाने वाले आकस्मिक निरीक्षणों के माध्यम से की जाती है । 1993–94 के दौरान असंतोषप्रद निष्पादन अथवा निधियों के दुरुपयोग के कारण अनुसूचित जाति/अनुसूचित जनजाति कल्याण के क्षेत्र में 12 संगठनों के सहायतानुदान रोक दिये गये । संबंधित जिला प्राधिकारियों को यह निदेश दिया गया है कि वे इन संगठनों की परिसम्पत्तियों को सील कर दें ।